

Doucet, Lisa

From: Perez, Robert
Sent: Thursday, August 04, 2016 1:48 PM
To: Binder, Bruce; Brantley, Lakeya
Cc: Hahn, Intaek
Subject: Oil and Gas Development in the Appalachian Basin RFA

I've created the funding opportunity for the 'Oil and Gas Development in the Appalachian Basin' RFA. It follows the template except for the CFDA. This RFA is non-STAR so any references to STAR were removed and 66.511 is being used. The direction to fund this competition comes from P.L. 114-113. The relevant language is below.

Omnibus Explanatory Statement:

Research: National Priorities.—The bill provides \$4,100,000 which shall be used for extramural research grants, independent of the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant program, to fund high-priority water quality and availability research by not-for-profit organizations who often partner with the Agency. Because these grants are independent of the STAR grant program, the Agency should strive to award grants in as large an amount as is possible to achieve the most scientifically significant research. Funds shall be awarded competitively with priority given to partners proposing research of national scope and who provide a 25 percent match. The Agency is directed to allocate funds to grantees within 180 days of enactment of this Act. Further, the bill provides \$3,000,000 as directed in House Report 114-170. In addition, the bill provides \$7,000,000 for certification and compliance activities related to vehicle and engine emissions, of which the Agency is directed to provide at least \$5,000,000 in extramural resources.

HR 114-170

EPA risk assessments along with other Agency programs as a way to more effectively and efficiently identify risks.

Research: National Priorities.—The bill provides \$4,100,000 which shall be used for extramural research grants, independent of the STAR grant program, to fund high-priority water quality and availability research by not-for-profit organizations who often partner with the Agency. Funds shall be awarded competitively with priority given to partners proposing research of national scope for "Intelligent Water Systems" and who provide a 25 percent match. The Agency is directed to allocate funds to grantees within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Further, the Committee provides \$3,000,000 for the Agency to further research on oil and gas development in the Appalachian Basin, of which \$2,000,000 is available for extramural funding.

The direction for this competition is under the National Priorities heading. We confirmed that the requirements applicable to the National Priorities competition on water quality and availability research do not apply to this competition. Therefore, although this competition is non-STAR, it does not require:

- (1) applicants be not-for-profit organizations who often partner with the Agency;
- (2) priority be given to research that is national in scope; and
- (3) priority be given to applicants offering 25 cost share. Cost share is not required.

Let me know if you have any questions.

thanks

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